

Hawaii MARINE SPORTS

HAWAII MARINE C SECTION

MARCH 2, 2007

3/3 Vets short circuit 3rd Radio Battalion 10-0

Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

Combat Correspondent

In their third game of the season, the undefeated 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment Vets beat the players of 3rd Radio Battalion 10-0 in an intramural baseball game held aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Feb. 26.

Superior pitching and hitting by the Vets put them far above 3rd Radio Battalion. Pitchers Jamie Johnson, Justin Russell and Daryl Poullett allowed only one run in the last three games.

"The pitching was outstanding tonight. Out of the 18 outs in the game, 16 were from strikeouts," said Tim King, Vets' coach. "We were hitting really well, and even the few missed cues on base running worked out for us in the end."

In the first inning, the Vets dominated. The visiting team went to the plate first, but after the first few batters worked out the bugs, it was evident the Vets had come prepared to play.

Chris Mays, a Vets' player and native of New Orleans, was the first to score after a sacrifice base hit. With only one out and a few points on the board, the Vets pushed through, gaining three more points but were brought to a standstill by 3rd Radio's pitcher Patrick Gordon.

The players from 3rd Radio took to the plate, as Johnson started off on the mound for the Vets. Allowing only one hit in the bottom of the first, the pitcher struck out three players in a row, sending his team back to the dugout for another swing at

See BASEBALL, C-5



Lance Cpl R. Drew Hendricks

Samuel "Red" Smith, a 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Vets player and native of Greenville, N.C., turns into a pitch during a game against 3rd Radio Battalion on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Feb. 26. The Vets went on to beat 3rd Radio Battalion 10-0.



Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland

Walter Moore, Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting, Marine Corps Air Facility, sprays runners as they complete the 13th Annual Swamp Romp Feb. 24 at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Mud, sweat, cheer Island's dirtiest footrace brings it all

Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland

Press Chief

Oahu's dirtiest footrace took participants for a romp in the swamp while traversing obstacles along the way during the annual event held at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay Saturday.

The 13th Annual Swamp Romp took runners along a 4.5-mile course from Landing Zone Boondocker, over a multitude of obstacles, out to Fort Hase Beach, and back around to where they started.

"It seemed to me that everyone really enjoyed themselves," said Meghan Brophy, varsity sports coordinator, Marine Corps Community Services. "Everyone went home muddy, and, ironically, that is the best part of this run."

The event, co-sponsored by Combat Service Support Group 3, was open to the military community and the public.

For a group of 12 women, the idea of running the race started with an e-mail.

"I had the crazy idea to

run this race, because I was new to the area and wanted to meet like-minded friends," said Allison Krug, 35, from Kailua, Hawaii, and "Dirty Dozen" team captain.

Krug sent an e-mail inviting one of her friends, who then sent it to other acquaintances and so on. The response was high enough to have two complete teams of six. However, the group vowed to finish together.

"Life is all about experiences," said Laurie Lyon, 31, from Kailua. "If you don't try new things, you aren't really living."

Amy Kozlowski, 32, from Alexandria, Va., flew in from Washington, D.C., to compete in the race.

"My friend Leo (Conlon), sent me an e-mail in January asking if I wanted to come out and visit and, oh, by the way, we will be running a race the next day," said Kozlowski.

While some thought this year's course was tough, previous runners thought a little different.

See SWAMP, C-4



Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

Service members and civilians dig as hard as they can into the watery mud in order to get through one of the dirtiest obstacles of the Swamp Romp. Participants traversed uneven paths, deep mud puddles, barriers, and each other in order to finish the 4.5-mile course aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Bodysurfing competition finals big success

Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland

Press Chief

The make-up day for the semi-finals and finals of the President's Day Bodysurfing Championship was held Sunday at Pyramid Rock Beach aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

According to Dino Leonard, event coordinator, Marine Corps Community Services, 60 out of 123 competitors had advanced to the semi-final and final rounds from last weekend.

"We had to delay the start of the event an hour and a half in order to wait for better surf," said Leonard.

Despite the cancellation in last week's final day, Leonard said most of the bodysurfers are used to this happening.

"It is standard procedure for these types of events," said Leonard. "We are driven by the weather and conditions of the waves. Last week it was too windy, so the waves were choppy and blown out."

During the fins-only event, bodysurfers were judged on the size of the wave, the length of the ride, and any tricks completed while riding the wave.

Awards were given to the top six overall finishers in six categories. The top finisher in each division competed for the title of grand champion.

Ben Mercier, event coordinator for 3rd Marine Regiment, Marine Corps

Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, said, "This is a good contest for the public and the military."

Of the funds raised during the event, \$3,200 will go to the Armed Services YMCA.



Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland

Mary Shwing rides a wave in Heat 1 during the Women's Division finals at the President's Day Bodysurfing Championship held at Pyramid Rock Beach Feb. 25.

Top three finishers per category:

Women's Division

Mealoha Hooten	1st
Delori Manus	2nd
Mikyla Thomas	3rd

18 and Under

Kanealii Wilcox	1st
Michael Dubiel	2nd
Matthew McMullin	3rd

19-24 Division

Ian MacDonald	1st
Kawika Samson	2nd
John Wayne Thomas	3rd

25-34 Division

John Flanagan	1st
Arlo Valera	2nd
Ben Mercier	3rd

35-49 Division

Kai Santos	1st
Uly Mathews	2nd
Barry Holt	3rd



Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland

Kanealii Wilcox, winner, first-place 18 and Under.

50 and Up

Hoyt Fuller	1st
Fred Asmus	2nd
Thomas Keener	3rd

Grand Champion (first-place winner from each division competition)

Kai Santos	1st
Ian MacDonald	2nd
John Flanagan	3rd



Lieutenant Cmdr. Jay Geistkemper, a dental officer assigned to 21st Dental Company, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, uses the Crocodile Dentist to explain importance of dental health to students at the Child Development Center on K-Bay. The Center was just one of the facilities the dentist visited during Children’s Dental Health Month.

Right: Using a stuffed animal to get and hold his young audience's attention, Geistkemper shows students how to properly brush their teeth.



21st Dental teaches proper tooth care

**Story and Photos by
Lance Cpl. Edward C.
deBree**

Combat Correspondent

Dental officers and technicians assigned to the 21st Dental Company at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, visited the children enrolled in the Child Development Center Feb. 22 and 23.

The officers and technicians were visiting the Center and schools on and off base to promote dental health awareness and to teach children the importance of brushing and flossing their teeth.

“We want to teach the kids and give them the idea to keep their mouths and teeth clean and to avoid sugary snacks,” said Lt. Cmdr. Jay Geistkemper, dentist. “We want to make sure that they’ll

have healthy teeth.”

When the staff arrived at the Center, they brought stuffed animals as teaching aides to help them get and keep the children’s attention. Some of the tools used were “Murphy the dog,” the “Crocodile Dentist,” a floss rope, and a video from the American Dental Association.

According to Geistkemper, the stuffed animal Murphy the dog was used to show children how they are supposed to brush their teeth, and the Crocodile Dentist was used to show children how to check for sore teeth.

“Those are our main teaching aides,” said Geistkemper. “We also gave out toothbrushes and teaching aides to them.

“It’s great to see the kids. They get a kick out of the Crocodile Dentist and how it snaps when you

touch a sore tooth.”

Geistkemper said the team visited children at schools on and off base during Children’s Dental Health Month, which was February.

“We want to start them with healthy teeth for the rest of their lives,” said Petty Officer 3rd Class Felicia Austin, hospital corpsman. “We want to get them while they’re young.”

Geistkemper said that although February is Children’s Dental Health Month, dentists don’t want adults to forget to look after themselves and get make sure to get checkup every year.

“It’s fun to provide quality service, not only to the Marines and Sailors on base, but also their children,” said Petty Officer 3rd Class April Kavanaugh, hospital corpsman. “It’s great to be able to take care of everybody.”



Geistkemper stands children at the Child Development Center side by side in order to demonstrate to them how to properly floss between teeth.

Center offers tips for improving motorcycling skills

Mario Diprete

Base Safety Center

There are two types of motorcyclists – those who want to be better riders and those who don’t.

The simple fact is that motorcyclists who embrace rider education as an active part of their motorcycle experience are the ones who will ride safely into their twilight years; but riders who resist learning the fundamentals are the ones who risk injury.

I hear complaints from riders, almost daily, regarding Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s policy requiring riders to take an annual rider course. Their excuses for not wanting to abide by that policy speak volumes about them.

“It’s too hard on a big bike,” or “What does riding around little cones and painted lines have to do with motorcycling?” These are a few of the comments, and, of course, the most

popular one is, “I’ve been riding my whole life. What can I possibly learn from taking one of those courses?”

These are the riders who just don’t get it. Instead of complaining about what they have to do, they should be thinking about what they might be missing by not attending the training. The Base Safety Center aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, offers the Basic Rider and the Experienced Rider course. These courses provide riders of all experience levels the opportunity to learn and/or improve their riding skills.

While the real-world relevance of riding around cones and lines may be debatable for some, the skills that these exercises measure are not. Low speed balance and control, turning, stopping and swerving are skills critical to survival for a motorcycle rider. Doing things correctly at 10 to 20 mph shows that you’re capable of doing them at 40 or 60.

On a motorcycle, there is too much at stake to trust the judgment and abilities of other drivers on the road, so participating in a rider-improvement course is paramount to the riding experience.

Like any vehicle that is in motion, a motorcycle involves risk, but the risk can be mitigated with a finely tuned skill set. This means assessing your desires and abilities and committing to safety. A rider’s judgment and attitude are the most critical factor in avoiding an incident. This is true even with proper training and good intentions, so attending a motorcycle safety program is essential to a motorcycle rider’s development.

To prove this theory, let’s take a look at one of the most difficult skills for a motorcyclist to master – braking. Now, you may be asking yourself, “What’s so hard about braking?” Most motorcycles have two separate

brake-control systems – one for the front wheel and one for the rear wheel. While riders usually over brake the rear and under brake the front, with a little understanding of a motorcycle’s dynamics and some practice riders can work up to and get the maximum braking performance out of their bike.

In the event of a panic situation, knowing you and your bike’s capabilities and limitations is crucial. To better understand what I’m talking about, let’s take a look at what happens when the brakes are applied. As you squeeze the front brake lever, the weight of the motorcycle is transferred to the front tire, which causes available traction to vary. In this situation, the rider typically over brakes the rear and under brakes the front. Some of riders may not think this a big deal, but over braking can cause a loss of steering control, or worse, a total loss of control.

The bottom line here is that if the rear wheel is locked, the rider loses directional control; and if the front wheel locks, the rider is likely to crash due to loss of stability. Seems simple, doesn’t it?

This is but one of the many lessons learned while attending the rider courses aboard MCB Hawaii. If you’re planning to ride a motorcycle on base, the choice is easy – you don’t have a choice. Taking one of the three courses offered by Base Safety is not an option – it’s a requirement.

After completing one of our Motorcycle Safety Foundation courses and receive your certification, you will begin to understand the value of programs such as these. Wasn’t the reason you began riding to have fun? Think about how much more you will enjoy the ride when you have learned the skills to manage any situation.

See you on the course.

Tips for helping children deal with deployment

Kelli Kirwan

LIFELines

Deployment is something that Navy and Marine Corps families live with. It’s part of your life if your spouse is a member of the seagoing services. Adults experience a whole spectrum of emotions, but we can usually discuss our feelings about the deployment and find understanding among our peers. We can learn about the roller coaster of emotion that comes along with a deployment.

Once we understand our emotions, we can begin to adjust and prepare to combat the more difficult times. Children, however, don’t always understand that roller-coaster ride. Without their permission or consent, they are loaded into the front seat of the emotional roller coaster and taken through the loops and turns of deployment.

There are seven emotional stages that adults typically experience during a deployment. It’s

harder to put a label on what children go through. We can’t always tell how they’re feeling, and they can’t always tell us what they’re thinking, or what they might be afraid of. We can help children prepare for the deployment, but in the end, we must often live in the moment with them. If one thing is predictable when it comes to children and deployment, it is that children and deployment are highly unpredictable.

Stop, Look, and Listen

Active listening is important no matter what your child’s age. Often you must listen “between the lines” as your children are talking. Helping them to express their thoughts, feelings, and concerns throughout the entire deployment process is healthy. Acknowledging their feelings and then reassuring them that both their parents love them can bring them comfort.

A younger child who can’t talk yet or is

unable to put his thoughts and fears into words will instead give you clues by his behavior. You can read to your child better than anyone, so it’s up to you to start the conversations and give the attention and affection that will reassure your child.

Before Your Sailor or Marine Leaves

Even before a Sailor or Marine parent leaves, some children start to behave differently — some children act out, while others withdraw. They may become anxious at the thought of their parent leaving, and develop unfounded fears. Older children who can understand more of the current events that affect our military may develop fears that are not unfounded and cannot easily be put to rest.

Children have an uncanny habit of asking profound questions that have no easy answers. Questions dealing with life, death, and a hundred “what ifs” in between can really test your parenting skills, but take the time to answer

them truthfully and matter-of-factly. When answering, consider your child’s age, emotional maturity and ability to process tough issues. Give enough information to satisfy their questions, but be careful not to bring up additional issues or subjects they may not be ready to know.

As the deployment draws near and the day of departure approaches, some children will become more sensitive and need to be close to their parents, so be patient if they seem needy or clingy. Others may withdraw, become quiet, and separate themselves, so be ready to spend extra quiet time alone with them if they don’t want to join the family group.

In one family’s experience with a deployment, some of the children expressed love and concern for the departing parent, while their 5-year-old sister acted as if the parent was merely going to the commissary for milk. The next

See DEAL, C-6

Sports Briefs

Ultimate Fighting Championship 68 at Kahuna's Sport's Bar & Grill & Recreation Center at 4 p.m.

Watch the Ultimate Fighting Championship 68 at Kahuna's.

Fight starts at 5 p.m. at the Sports Bar and Grill. Viewing available in Recreation Center Theatre for a fun, alcohol free event

For information call, Alexis Swenson at 254-7660.

K-Bay Gamers Seeking Players

Gamers from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, are looking for players who want to compete with each other at local tournaments or for the title of "King of K-Bay." The champion will then represent MCB Hawaii in matches, live, with gamers from other services and duty stations.

You must be an active duty service member to join.

Visit www.newtroop.com, a military-only gaming community, for additional information on upcoming tournaments throughout the armed services.

For information, call Cpl. Ryan Trevino at 783-1243.

WISA Looking for Players

Women's Over 30 Soccer team is looking for players. League games are Sundays in the fall and spring. Call Kathy for more information and registration: daytime 971-2503, evenings 261-9951.

Ongoing

Parents for Fitness

The Parents for Fitness Program is a cooperative baby-sitting effort available at the Semper Fit Center, MCB Hawaii for all active duty service members and their families. The PFFP participants are required to volunteer baby-sit three times per month and is open for children 6 weeks and older.

For more information, contact Dana at 235-8901.

Deep-Sea Fishing Charters Offered at Base Marina

Fishermen searching for convenient access to deep-sea charters need look no further than the MCB Hawaii Base Marina. Bill Collector Fishing Charters offers numerous charter packages accommodating up to six passengers.

Avoiding the traffic and crowd of Oahu's South Shore, Bill Collectors charters fish from the uncrowded waters of windward Oahu.

Call the Base Marina to charter the Bill Collector at 257-7667 or 254-7666.

Campground and Picnic Sites

For picnic and campsites, Marine Corps Base Hawaii offers some of the most scenic beaches on the island.

Three of those beaches, Pyramid Rock, Hale Koa and Fort Hase are available by reservation from dawn to dusk for picnics and parties. Hale Koa Beach may be reserved for overnight camping. Reservations are required.

Call 254-7666 for Kaneohe or 477-5143 for Camp Smith for more information.

Okinawa Kenpo Karate

Every Tuesday and Thursday, join Youth Activities' contractor for Kenpo Karate Kobudo classes, held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in Building 1391, located behind the old 7-Day Store.

Adults and children are welcome. Costs for classes are \$35 for adults, \$25 for children, and \$20 for additional family members. For information, call Youth Activities at 254-7610.

Paintball Hawaii

Nestled behind the Lemon Lot stands Paintball Hawaii. Shoot over for the great deals and have a blast with your friends.

Cost is \$25 per person and includes one air refill, equipment and the field fee. The field is open on week-ends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Call 265-4283 for appointments.

K-Bay Lanes

K-Bay Lanes offers economical entertainment Mondays through Thursdays. All E-1s to E-5s pay \$1.75 for games and 50 cents to rent shoes.

For more information, call K-Bay Lanes at 254-7693.



Intramural basketball standings

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
VPU-2	7	1
3/3	7	2
CPRW-2	9	0
MCAF	4	4
HSL-37 "MAROON"	6	2
MESS HALL	5	2
OUTLAWS	6	1
3RD RADIO BN	2	6
POSTAL	4	4
CSSG-3	2	4
VP-9 #1	3	6
HSL-37 "GOLD"	0	9
MALS -24	5	5
VP-9 #2	0	9
IPAC	2	7

* standings as of Feb. 27



Intramural baseball standings

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	TIES
3/3	2	0	0
MAG-24	2	1	0
VP-9	1	0	0
HQBN	2	1	0
3RD RADIO BN	0	1	0
CSSG-3	1	2	0
VP-47	0	3	0

* standings as of Feb. 27

Bowling stats

Team Standings											
Place	Team Name	Points Won	Points Lost	Team Ave.	HDCP	Pins plus Handicap	Place	Team Name	Points Won	Points Lost	Team Ave. HDCP
1	Team Whidbey	17	3	570	182	11298	11	Effin' H	9	11	572 181
2	AINOKEA	16	4	593	164	11788	12	The Happy Team	9	11	514 226
3	3 Putts	15	5	546	201	11703	13	Team 17	8	12	416 305
4	BANNED	14	6	621	142	11457	14	Golden Eagle's	7	13	605 154
5	Flaming Hookers	13	7	599	159	11358	15	Da Pin Droppers	7	13	430 295
6	Illegal Affairs:ReDux	12	8	659	112	11688	16	The Blue Ballers	7	13	580 174
7	4th Force Recon	12	8	537	208	11296	17	Team 3	7	13	585 171
8	Pinheads	11½	8½	534	211	11314	18	Ghost Team	6½	13½	489 247
9	VP-9	11	9	515	226	11137	19	Big Ern's Kids	5	15	510 231
10	The Untouchables	10	10	416	305	10946	20	Team Ramrod	3	17	457 272
Results of Last Week's Bowling.....											
Lanes	Team Name	-1-	-2-	-3-	HDCP Total	Last Wk WON	Team Name	-1-	-2-	-3-	HDCP Total
1-2	4th Force Recon	750	721	791	2262	4	Ghost Team	677	712	710	2099
3-4	Da Pin Droppers	724	812	751	2287	3	Team 17	696	775	794	2265
5-6	Effin' H	789	860	805	2454	0	Illegal Affairs:ReDux	897	864	834	2595
7-8	Big Ern's Kids	0	0	0	0	0	3 Putts	900	831	828	2559
9-10	Team Ramrod	764	688	719	2171	0	The Blue Ballers	862	734	874	2470
11-12	Team Whidbey	740	740	793	2273	4	VP-9	726	736	760	2222
13-14	BANNED	767	753	735	2255	3	Golden Eagle's	697	720	770	2187
15-16	Pinheads	744	759	731	2234	2	The Happy Team	772	690	754	2216
17-18	Team 3	0	0	0	0	0	AINOKEA	798	794	844	2436
19-20	Flaming Hookers	765	824	838	2427	3	The Untouchables	783	710	755	2248
Last Week's High Scores for Immediate Release											
Scratch Game			Scratch Game			Scratch Series			Scratch Series		
Men			247 Brock Brothers			656 Brock Brothers					
			237 Salvatore Taibi			613 Shawn Harrison					
			237 Michael Saxe			576 Michael Saxe					
			236 Marc Gonsalves								
			234 Shawn Harrison								
			203 Marc Gonsalves								
Women			192 Ronna Weyland			526 Ronna Weyland			468 Melenie Nixon		
			178 Ronna Weyland			470 Kumi Martin					



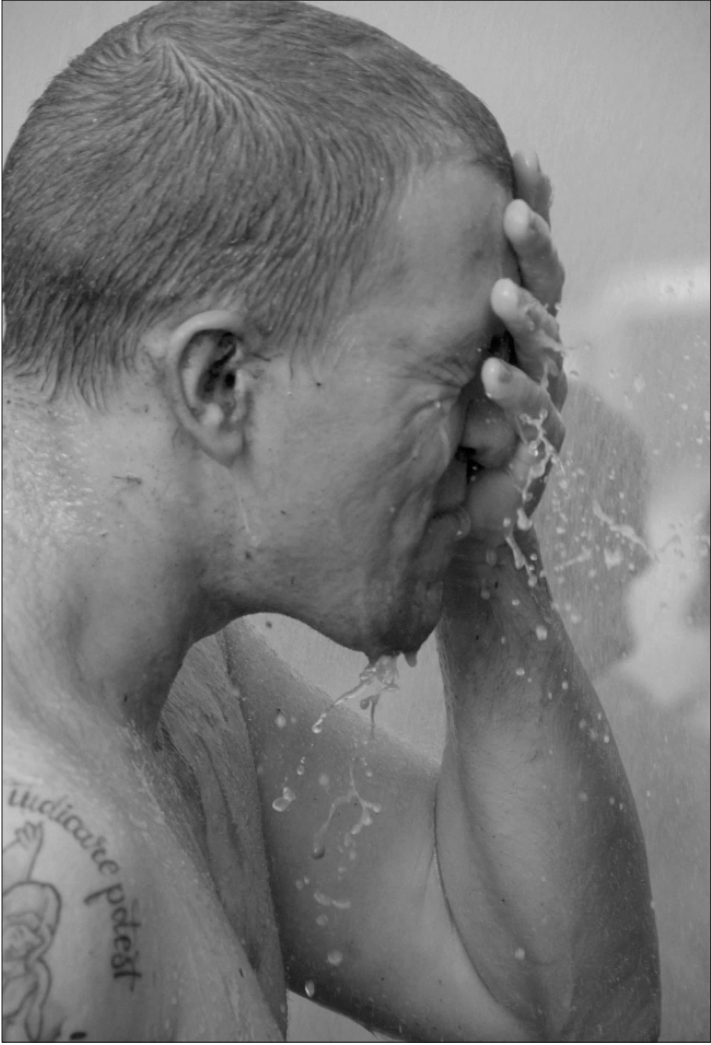
It keeps more than memories alive.

American Heart Association.
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke





Team 194, the “Killer Emoos,” lead the way while crossing the muddy waters of Nuupia Pond on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, during this year’s Swamp Romp Feb. 24.



Steve Fennell, “Contract Killers” team member, washes off his face after completing the race.

Joseph Mitchell, “Slow and Easy” team member, is covered in mud from head to toe after completing the race.



SWAMP, from C-1

“There was more mud in the beginning of the course last year,” said Joseph Mitchell, “Slow and Easy” team member, from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24.

“They need more mud, but overall the race is a lot of fun. It helps build camaraderie within your unit.”

Kathryn P. Hollier, event coordinator for CSSG-3, said the race was held in March last year, and more than 40 days of rain had the course unusually muddy.

“We had warm weather this past week, so the course was dryer in some areas,” said Hollier. “The engineers did a great job, though, creating a trail where it had overgrown from last year. They also marked the trail and built some obstacles into the course.”

She also said Marines from Combat Assault Company, 3rd Marine Regiment, came out with their amphibious assault

vehicles and rolled over a few areas.

The AAVs had been doing training exercises in Nuupia Ponds a few days before the race.

According to Brophy, there were 271 teams registered this year, just shy of their goal of 275.

“We hope to see everyone back next year for an even ‘muddier time,’” said Brophy.

Awards were provided for the top three finishers for each division.

The categories for teams were formed by cumulative ages and gender to include mixed teams with three females and three males.

“I think, overall, the event went pretty well,” said Hollier. “The runners looked like they had a good time, and they were definitely muddy.”

Hollier said there were only a few rolled ankles reported on the course and there were no serious safety concerns during the event.

Winners

Young Men		
1st	STALLIONS	55:00
2nd	X-CREW	1:06:52
3rd	MUD HEADZ	1:09:06
Warriors		
1st	FLEET FEET MEN	38:27
2nd	UH HAWAII ROTC	38:52
3rd	SWAMP DONKEYS	39:46
Men’s Masters		
1st	GIFTED GECKOS	44:28
2nd	OFF THE COUCH	44:32
3rd	PACOM AIEA RIDGE	46:30
Women’s Open		
1st	FLEET FEET 6	45:40
2nd	MUDDY MOTIVATOR	49:03
3rd	DIRTY WAHINE	50:03
Mixed		
1st	SWAMP DOGGIES	41:01
2nd	FEN GULAS	44:39
3rd	MUD PACKER	48:40
Women Masters		
1st	T. A.	42:22
2nd	THESE WOMEN WILL HURT YOU	52:33
3rd	TEAM KAUAI	52:57
Overall Winners		
1st	MUDDER FOKKERS	
	Men Masters	31:23
2nd	VARYING MUD WAR Warriors	36:24
3rd	THE FEDS Warriors	38:16
Overall Fastest MCB Hawaii Team		
1st	VARYING MUD WAR	36:24



Teammates hold hands while crossing the waters of Nuupia Pond.



A runner removes tape from her shoe after completing the 4.5 mile race. Many of the competitors taped their shoes in order to keep them secured while going through the muddy course.



Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

Daryl Paullett, a 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment Vets is unable to get solid contact with the pitch from 3rd Radio Battalion's pitcher Patrick Gordon and slams the ball into the dirt.

BASEBALL, from C-1

the plate.

Momentum changed for the Vets, and they were soon given a dose of their own medicine when Gordon and the 3rd Radio defense put three up and three down.

A pitcher's duel began. "When you have great pitchers like these teams have, scores stay low," said Clyde Torigue, league umpire. "There is a lot of talent out here."

The score remained 4-0 in favor of the Vets, as the next two innings remained eventless.

The pitchers continued to duel it out until the top of the fourth, when a miscommunication on the bases turned out well for the Vets.

After gaining another run, King yelled to Vets' Timm Coffman, who had a large lead on second base, to steal once the batter made contact. It was uncertain whether or not Coffman understood King or his nerves got the best of him; but he took off for third

base, forgetting that Mays was already there.

A mistake that could have ended the inning badly for the Vets turned into an unorthodox, yet successful play.

With nowhere to go, Mays reacted quickly and took off toward home plate. Caught off guard, the players from 3rd Radio froze, giving Coffman just enough time to try and scramble back to second.

However, 3rd Radio caught their bearings and squeezed Coffman into a pickle. Turning up a little speed and digging hard toward third, Coffman was able to beat them out and slide safely to third.

The next batter put up another base hit, which brought Coffman home and brought the score to 7-0.

With only one out remaining, the Vets managed to hang on and put up another point, bringing the score 8-0 at the top of the fourth. The next Vets' batter was thrown out at first, and 3rd Radio prepared to take their best shot.



Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

Patrick Gordon, 3rd Radio Battalion pitcher, rockets the ball down the centerline for a strike during a game against 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment Vets, at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Feb. 26.

Unluckily for 3rd Radio, Russell relieved Johnson and struck out all three of 3rd Radios' batters.

At the top of the fifth, the Vets had a chance to clinch the game early. With eight points on the board and a runner on first and second, they could have brought their score to 10, which would have been enough to end the game on a mercy call. With two outs, their chances were a little slim.

Catching a break, their next batter was walked, which loaded the bases. Third Radio's players were sweating as the Vets batter swung hard, sending the ball straight up.

Luckily for 3rd Radio, an easy pop fly landed into center fielder Matt Saoit's

mitt. The Vets had to settle for a tag up on third, sending one runner home and bringing the score to 9-0.

With the hopes of ending the game in the fifth inning gone, the Vets looked to keep their blowout in tact.

Johnson was able to rest up as Paullett took to the mound with a fresh arm. Relentless, Paullett struck out two 3rd Radio players with ease, allowing only one to make it to base. The next batter placed an easy grounder into the hands of the Vets' second baseman, sending the Vets back to bat.

At the top of the sixth, the score remained 9-0. The Vets needed one more run to win. Their first batter

went down swinging; their second was walked; their third was struck out; and their fourth put up an easy pop fly to midfield. With that, 3rd Radio jogged off the field and the Vets ran on.

Paullett continued to show his pitching prowess, keeping the 3rd Radio players honest in the bottom of the sixth by sending two of them back to the bench.

With two outs, the next 3rd Radio batter got hold of a pitch and sent the ball down the midfield. Good defense by the Vets stopped him at first.

The Vets took to the plate at the top of the seventh were able to put one more point on the board, leaving

3rd Radio to swing for the fences in hopes of a miraculous comeback.

There would be no fairy-tale ending for 3rd Radio – only an impressive display of pitching by Paullett. After striking out the first two batters, Paullett faced down 3rd Radio's last hope. With a full count, Paullett wound up and sent the ball clean across the plate. "Strike!" The call was made, and the Vets claimed their third straight victory.

"Being 3-and-0 we are not going to get full of ourselves," said King. "We know there is a lot of stiff competition out there. I'm not going to sell ourselves short either, because we are in it to win."

DEAL, from C-2

morning, when still half asleep, the little girl asked for her daddy. Her mother explained that Daddy had left the day before.

The little girl sleepily said she missed her daddy and didn't want him to leave. The mother took the opportunity to tell her daughter that she missed Daddy too – validating the little girl's feelings – and that he would be home when they got to the big heart circled on the calendar, reassuring that all would be well. The child's detachment had only been a coping mechanism to help her deal with what she could not comprehend — her home without her daddy for six months.

In the Beginning

As the deployment begins, the entire family works to establish the new routine. Children may test the parent left behind to find out what they can get away with. Everyone is readjusting to help fill the empty space left by his or her Sailor or Marine. It's important to establish structure and routine as soon as possible.

Don't be surprised if some of the kids become melancholy and their grades begin to slip. Other children may display defiance and belligerence. Younger children may regress back to bedwetting or “accidents.” Clearly defined limits will give children a feeling of security at a time when they may feel the most insecure but can't express it in words.

During the Deployment

Life will settle down into some semblance of routine and normalcy. Don't get too comfortable, though. Someone forgot to tell the children that this is the time to stabilize and hit their stride. Most of the time things do settle down, but keep watching for signs of distress in their behavior and attitude. If you feel your children are having more difficulty adjusting than you think is normal, consult the counselors at your Fleet and Family Service Center or the Marine Corps Community Services.

Your Sailor or Marine is Coming Home

As homecoming approaches, don't be tempted to let things slide. The reunion can be as unsettling for children as the departure. Don't worry that all the projects were not accomplished or that you didn't meet the goals you may have set. Your children will take their cue from you. Happy anticipation is better than stressful worry about the fast-approaching reunion.

Welcome Back

If you thought the roller-coaster ride had stopped the day the ship pulled in, then you're in for a surprise. There will be a honeymoon period, but then the reorganizing of the family begins. The children may resent being disciplined by their returned parent and react in various ways. They may need time to adjust to having to answer to two "big people."

Children may have great anxiety when the Sailor or Marine first returns to duty. They need to be reassured that they will see their parent again that evening. Other children may not be able to wait for their Sailor or Marine to go back to work because their routine has been upset once again.

Communication helps children deal with their feelings when it comes to deployment and the reunion. Encouraging your children to talk, and by listening to them thoughtfully, will help you help them with those sudden dips and turns.

The parent at home is the emotional rudder that steers the family through the deployment. You have a great effect on how your children



Gunnery Sgt. Claudia M. deLeon

Navy Lt. Matthew C. Axtman, battalion surgeon for 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, poses for a homecoming photo with his wife Maria and their children: Alyssa, Jessica and Nicholas.

handle life in the Navy or Marine Corps, and how well they handle deployments. If they know you're there beside

them on that roller coaster, they won't be as afraid the next time they have to take that first big hill.

Stompin’ through the mud



Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland

Participants in the 13th Annual Swamp Romp are slowed by muddy waters while crossing Nuupia Ponds Feb. 24 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.